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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/59/483)*]

59/226. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 56/193 of 21 December 2001, 57/251 of 20 December 2002 and 58/209 of 23 December 2003,

Taking into account Agenda 21[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2]

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the sustainable development needs of developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition,

Recalling the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[3] on the full implementation of the outcomes of the decision on international environmental governance adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventh special session,[4]

Reiterating the need to ensure that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in environment-related fields, remain important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, and noting in this regard the ongoing work of the High-level Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group to prepare an intergovernmental strategic plan for technology support and capacity-building,

Recalling its resolutions 57/251 and 58/209, by which Member States, the Governing Council and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system were

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] Ibid., para. 140 (*d*).

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/57/25), annex I, decision SS.VII/1.

encouraged to submit their comments, in a timely manner, on the important i
complex issue of establishing universal membership of the Governing Council/Glol
Ministerial Environment Forum, including its legal, political, institutional, financ
and system-wide implications, in order to contribute to the report of the Secreta
General to be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration before
sixtieth session;

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nati
Environment Programme on its eighth special session[5] and the decisions contai
therein;

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursu
to its resolutions 57/251 and 58/209;[6]

3. *Notes* that the Governing Council, at its eighth special session, discus
all components of the recommendations on international environmental governan
as contained in its decision SS.VII/1,[5] and notes the continued discussion schedu
for its twenty-third session;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for the United Nations Environment Program
within its mandate, to further contribute to sustainable development programm
the implementation of Agenda 21[7] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
all levels and to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, bear
in mind the mandate of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

5. *Calls upon* all countries to further engage in the negotiations of
intergovernmental strategic plan for technology support and capacity-building w
a view to its adoption at the twenty-third session of the Governing Council,
February 2005;

6. *Notes* the differences in the views expressed so far on the important
complex issue of establishing universal membership for the Govern
Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, notes also the upcom
consideration of the question of universal membership by the Council/Forum at
twenty-third session, encourages Member States, the Governing Council and
relevant bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet done so to sub
their comments to the Secretariat on the important but complex issue of establish
universal membership for the Council/Forum, including the legal, politi
institutional, financial and system-wide implications, as their contribution to
report of the Secretary-General and requests the Secretary-General to submi
report incorporating those views to the Assembly for consideration at its sixty-f
session;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to further enhance coordination and cooperat
among the relevant United Nations organizations in the promotion of
environmental dimension of sustainable development, and in this respect welco
the continued participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in
United Nations Development Group;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme to continu
contribute, within its mandate and as a member of the Inter-Agency Task Force
the preparations for the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of

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[5] Ibid., *Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/59/25).

[6] A/59/262.

Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to be held in Mauritius from 10 to 14 January 2005;[7]

9. *Notes* the decision of the Governing Council to discuss at its twenty-third session issues related to domestic, industrial and hazardous waste management, in particular regarding capacity-building and technology support,[8] and, in that context, to consider innovative ways of mobilizing financial resources from all appropriate sources to support the efforts of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in this area;

10. *Also notes* the decision of the Governing Council to review at its twenty-third session the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the intergovernmental consultation on the strengthening of the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme;[9]

11. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII) underlines the need to consider the adequate reflection of all administrative and management costs of the Environment Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget;

12. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the provisions of section III.B. of the appendix to decision SS.VII/1 of the Governing Council on strengthening the role and financial situation of the United Nations Environment Programme, including the significant broadening of the donor base and increasing total contributions to the Environment Fund,[4] and, in this regard, notes that the Governing Council will review the implementation of those provisions at its twenty-third session;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Environment Programme and to the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi.

75th plenary meeting
22 December 2004

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[7] See resolution 57/262.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/59/25), annex I, decision SS.VIII/4.

[9] Ibid., decision SS.VIII/1, sect. II.